

Applicants: David M. Stern, et al.
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Page 2

Please amend the subject application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph that appears on page 2, lines 12-23 with the following paragraph:

G1
The reasons for accelerated atherosclerosis in the setting of diabetes are numerous. However, even after correction for dyslipidemia, hypertension and obesity, multivariate analysis studies have indicated that diabetic subjects have an excess risk of cardiovascular disease relative to nondiabetic subjects (Kannel and McGee, 1979). For example, in the Nurses' Health Study of 1,500 diabetic subjects among a total of 115,000 women, the incidence of cardiovascular disease was 5-fold higher in the diabetic subjects regardless of their levels of cholesterol (Manson et al., 1991). These data suggest that factors unique to the diabetic population play an important role.

Please replace the paragraph that appears on page 7, lines 25-30 with the following paragraph:

G2
The polypeptide may comprise a 10 kilodalton domain of naturally occurring soluble receptor for advanced glycation endproduct. The polypeptide may comprise less than or equal to 20 amino acids in length which sequences are within the sequence of the naturally occurring soluble receptor for advanced glycation endproduct.